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PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)	
Masahiko YOKOTA, et al.)	Examiner: Unassigned
Application No.: 10/050,852)	Group Art Unit: 2852
Filed: January 18, 2002)	
For: IMAGE READING APPARATUS)	April 15, 2002

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

In compliance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56 and in accordance with the practice under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98, the Examiner's attention is directed to the documents listed on the enclosed Form PTO-1449. Copies of the listed documents are also enclosed.

FEE/STATEMENT

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b), since a first Office Action has not been received in the subject application, neither a Statement, Petition, nor payment of a fee is required for this Information Disclosure Statement. However, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fee which may be deemed necessary in connection with this paper to Deposit Account No. 06-1205. A duplicate of this paper is enclosed for that purpose.

REMARKS

Japanese Patent Document No. 7-288656 is discussed at least at page 7, lines 1 through 25 of the specification. U.S. Patent No. 5,601,731 is listed in a commercial database as being in the family of Japanese Patent Document No. 7-288656.

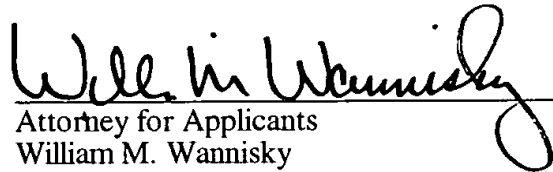
CONCLUSION

It is respectfully requested that the above information be considered by the Examiner and that a copy of the enclosed Form PTO-1449 be returned indicating that such information has been considered.

Favorable consideration hereof is earnestly solicited.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our address given below.

Respectfully submitted,



Attorney for Applicants
William M. Wannisky
Registration No. 28,373

FITZPATRICK, CELLA, HARPER & SCINTO
30 Rockefeller Plaza
New York, New York 10112-3801
Facsimile: (212) 218-2200

WMW/dc/tas

